

# Bridgeport Evening Farmer

VOL. 51—NO. 289

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8, 1915

PRICE TWO CENTS

## KAISER TO ACT PERSONALLY ON ATTACHES' CASE

Has Personal Interest in Withdrawal of Boy-Ed and Von Papen, Both of Whom Are His Own Appointees—Expect Berlin's Answer Will Be Here By Next Saturday.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Emperor William has a personal interest in the withdrawal of Captain Karl Boy-Ed and Captain Franz Von Papen, attaches of the German embassy here.

State department officials were informed that as the attaches were personally appointed by Emperor William he personally probably will give the orders for their withdrawal. It is understood that the officials considered it probable that the Berlin foreign office was prompted to ask what caused the action of the United States in declaring the attaches persona non grata so that when a report of the incident is made to the Emperor it may be right in all details.

The belief prevailed in official circles that Mr. Bernstorff would not be able to inform Secretary Lansing that the wishes of the United States would be complied with before Saturday at the earliest.

Secretary Lansing's communication to the German government giving the reasons for his request for the recall of Boy-Ed and Von Papen probably will satisfy Germany. At least this is said to be the view of Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador.

## STANDARD OIL SHIP REPORTED TORPEDOED, THOUGHT TO BE SAFE

New York Office Gets Word That Steamer Had Arrived Safely at Alexandria, Egypt, and Could Not Have Reached Scene of Attack.

No Word From Petrolite, Another U. S. Vessel, Reported Attacked By U-Boat—Washington Waits For Official Tidings.

New York, Dec. 8.—A despatch from Alexandria, Egypt, apparently confirming the report received by London Lloyd's that the oil tanker Communiaw was safe, was received today by the Standard Oil offices here. The message stated that the Communiaw reached Alexandria on Sunday, last, and would sail for New York on Tuesday.

The despatch came from Captain Nordstrom, of the Communiaw, and was given out by David Warden, manager of the foreign shipping department of the Standard Oil Company of New York.

"We are anxiously awaiting word from our vessel, the Petrolite," said Mr. Warden, "but have received no news except what we saw in the papers."

Whether a mistake has been made in reporting the Communiaw torpedoed or whether she was torpedoed after leaving Alexandria on her homeward voyage, Standard Oil officials can only conjecture.

The Communiaw could make only nine knots an hour, Mr. Warden said, and assuming she left Alexandria on Tuesday, or even on Monday, she could not have gone 350 miles to the point near Tripoli, Tripoli, where the original cablegram from Rome says the ship had been struck. This despatch was filed at Rome at 7:45 p. m. Tuesday, the day the Standard Oil officials had been advised the Communiaw left Alexandria.

"I feel sure the Communiaw is safe," said Mr. Warden. "But we are puzzled as to what, if anything, has happened to the Petrolite. We do not expect any word from her until she reaches Algeria."

Standard Oil officials also await a report from the captain of the Petrolite, which was shelled while in the eastern Mediterranean last Sunday by a submarine flying the Austrian flag. News of this attack came in a cablegram to the navy department from the commander of the United States steamer Des Moines at Canoe, Island of Crete. It said that one man on board the steamer was slightly injured. It was impossible, early today, to learn whether the wreckage discovered by the Greek torpedo boat was that of the Communiaw or still another American vessel.

Both the Communiaw and the Petrolite were purchased by the Standard Oil Co. from the German-American Petroleum Co., of Germany, after the beginning of the war, together with about 20 other oil steamers. They were transferred to American registry.

The Communiaw, formerly the Deutschland, was a three-masted, steel steamer. She left New York, October 27, for Alexandria, Egypt, but was detained at Genoa by the Italian

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**THE WEATHER**

Unsettled weather with probable rain or snow tonight and Thursday. Increasing south winds.

## ILLEGAL LOVERS TRIED SUICIDE IN GRAVEYARD

Couple Tells Police of Attempt at Self-Destruction and Result.

RELATE HISTORY OF SHATTERED INTRIGUE

Two Members of Triangle Under Arrest on Serious Charges Here.

How two lovers attempted suicide in an Austrian cemetery and how their lives were saved by a man who visited the cemetery was brought out this morning at police headquarters when Mr. and Mrs. John Patta, residents of St. Paul, Minn., and James Halloran, of Beach road, Milford, told their stories to the police.

Halloran and Mrs. Patta have been arrested on a serious charge. The third angle in the triangle, Halloran, is a former soldier of the United States army and now is a guard at the Remington Arms & Ammunition Co. Patta formerly was a soldier in the army of Austria. He says Halloran broke up his home. The latter and Mrs. Patta were arrested in court this morning and their cases were continued under bonds of \$500 until Dec. 11.

A love affair between Patta and the woman who is now his wife began in Austria. Mrs. Patta was already married to another man. During the time of their courtship Mrs. Patta kept secret the fact that she was a married woman and when Patta asked her to join him, she informed the officer that she was married, but would endeavor to get a divorce. Her efforts were fruitless and they decided to end their lives. Forth with they made their way to a cemetery in the outskirts of an Austrian city and there the army officer fired two shots from a revolver, one of which entered the right shoulder of his sweetheart and the other his abdomen.

The lovers lay in a dying condition on a newly covered grave in the cemetery until late that evening. When the watchman discovered their forms, he notified the police and they were moved to a hospital in the ambulance. Shortly after they recovered, however, and when discharged from the institution the army officer was hailed before a court of army officers and tried. He was sentenced to six months in the government prison, but after six months of good behavior he was released.

Proceedings were then begun to procure a divorce and shortly after it was granted. The husband didn't contest it. Patta, persuaded by the woman, left the army post and together they came to this country. They were married in Knoxville, Tenn. This was about eight years ago.

Here Patta followed the occupation of tailor and he says he made from \$50 to \$60 a week at this employment. He was wont to give his wife and pay envelope to his wife and she was

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**FIVE WILL FACE ACCUSATIONS OF MANSLAUGHTER**

West End Residents Are Accused of Having Caused Man's Death.

Five young men must face charges of manslaughter as the result of a series of gang fights that have recently taken place in the West End between English-speaking people and young men of foreign birth.

That Alex. Mikellonis, of 23 Cherry street, came to his death through the criminal acts of Joseph, Patrick and James Collins of 1124 Railroad avenue, John W. Stacey of 1128 Railroad avenue and Arthur Malstrom of 1384 State street is the report of Coroner John J. Phelan made today. All the men are in jail held under \$5,000 bonds. They will have a hearing in the city court on Saturday morning.

The coroner finds that the men under arrest had been drinking in the saloon of George McCabe at Railroad and Clinton avenues. About 11:10 on the evening of Saturday, Nov. 20, they left the saloon and tearing pickets from a neighboring fence they attacked the man now dead, Joseph Mikellonis, of 228 Cherry street, and Joseph Racks of 25 Clinton avenue, who were then passing in Railroad avenue. They severely beat all three but Mikellonis and Racks were able to run away while Mikellonis, unconscious from blows, toppled into the street. Later Policeman Patrick Lynch found him and called the ambulance.

Mikellonis was taken to St. Vincent's hospital where he died of a fractured skull and other injuries. December 3, Coroner Phelan finds that who took part in the melee were under the influence of liquor. He believes, however, that it is possible that one or more of the men who are alleged to have taken part in the attack did not strike Mikellonis.

All witnesses have told contradictory stories. Patrick Collins claims that earlier in the evening Mikellonis chased him into the doorway of his home and attempted to assault him and that several times before Mikellonis had attempted assaults.

Arthur Malstrom is the son of Special Policeman Malstrom and until this affair had a good reputation. Efforts of relatives to obtain his release on bail have been fruitless.

## WILSON COMPELLED BY THREAT OF EXPOSURE TO NAME COMMISSION TO INQUIRE INTO VICE CONDITIONS

TERRY WILL BE DROPPED FROM JOB WITH CITY

Engineer Won't Get Reappointment By G. O. P. Administration.

DIDN'T APPROVE OF WARRENITE POLICY

Prominent Official Will Go Because He Failed to Curry Favor.

Because he will not bow to the will of the present administration and insists on running his office in a manner that he considers proper and for the best interests of the city, City Engineer Alfred H. Terry will not be reappointed.

Two years ago Mr. Terry made it plain to the Republican organization that he intended to select his assistants because of their ability and not because of political pull or affiliation. Mr. Terry has been in sympathy with the administration's plan for many miles of warrenite roadways or with the plan of letting contracts without competitive bidding. His has been one department that has been conducted without fear of favor.

Engineer Terry has never curried favor with any of the city officials or with any of the powers that be in the Republican machine. Intent on the duties of his office he has gone about his work and when his judgment conflicted with those who were trying to procure costly pavements or improvements where they were not needed he opposed them. The result is that, in the parlance of the machine, Mr. Terry is "in wrong" with the Republican machine.

Engineer Terry first lost favor with the administration many months ago when the backers of the Republican machine connived to take away the powers of the paving and sewer commission and to put over the \$160,000 warrenite contracts. Mr. Terry did not warm up to this method of doing business and he is not in sympathy with the gigantic scheme that the Republican party has to force a million dollar bond issue on the people, about half of which it is planned to use for sewers, mostly with warrenite.

There are about 12 young engineers who are anxious to succeed Mr. Terry. To their credit it can be said that his present staff is loyal to him and that not one of them seeks his place.

The salary of the city engineer is \$4,000 a year and he also has a run-about car at his disposal for tours of inspection of places where city work is in progress. Plans for many miles of sewers, the layout of new streets, grades, etc., have been prepared in the city engineer's office with the expectation that the work would begin under his direction in the spring. A new man in his place will find considerable difficulty in becoming acquainted with the situation and in consequence the work will be considerably delayed.

Mayor Wilson said when asked to drop Terry would reappoint City Engineer Terry.

"I will announce the appointment of all officials in due time."

**BULGARS DRIVEN BACK.**

Paris, Dec. 8.—The French war office in its report this afternoon on hostilities in Serbia recites the driving back of a Bulgarian attack at Delirakapou on the Vardar river, the afternoon of Dec. 5.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Cotton ginned in 1915 was \$711,413 running bales, including round bales and 77,161 bales of sea island, the census bureau today announced.

**M'ADOO OUTLINES PLAN TO LOWER EXEMPTION MARK OF INCOME TAX**

Washington, Dec. 8.—Radical changes in the income tax to reach thousands not now subject to its provisions and to improve the machinery of collection were suggested to Congress today in the annual report of Secretary McAdoo as means by which the greater part of the additional revenue needed to pay for the administration of the national defense plans can be provided.

The Secretary proposed to lower the exemption limits so as to tax married persons with incomes as low as \$3,000, and single persons with \$2,000 incomes. The exemptions now are \$4,000 and \$3,000 respectively.

Increases in the collection force, requirement that returns must be made of gross income in place of net income, and a change so that the tax shall not be withheld at the source, were among Mr. McAdoo's other suggestions. He made no estimate of the number of persons who might be taxed if the amendments were adopted nor the amount that might be expected, but in connection with his

request for a larger collection force he pointed out that examination of the past personal and corporation returns showed that 43 per cent. of those inspected disclosed that additional tax was due the government. On the basis of the examinations, the Secretary estimated that approximately more than \$4,600,000 in personal tax and more than \$20,891,000 in corporation tax still is due the government.

Many inaccurate returns are made, said the report, "some deliberately and some ignorantly, and there are without doubt, wholesale evasions of the law throughout the country. It is absolutely certain that the Government is losing through inaccurate returns and evasions of the law a sum many times greater than the cost of the necessary field force to investigate and check the returns and to bring to account those who are failing to make returns as required by law."

In keeping with his recent announcement Mr. McAdoo suggested the

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NO ROOM FOR C. H. KING IN STATE PRISON

Cells At Wethersfield Well Patronized Sheriff Pease Learns.

The prison gates at Wethersfield may not clang behind Attorney C. H. King for some time. County Sheriff Pease said this morning that the prison is filled to capacity at present.

A short time ago he brought seven to Wethersfield who had been sentenced at the May term. There are still nine in the county jail sentenced at the September term, for whom room cannot be found in the county institution. These must be provided for before Attorney King and others sentenced at the present term can be put behind bars in Wethersfield.

In order to provide more room 65 additional cells are being built but the large number sent, from the different counties is considered, this addition will not greatly relieve the situation. Attorney King may languish in the county jail for a month or two before he can be accommodated at Wethersfield. His sentence started yesterday.

When sentenced yesterday King showed little emotion. He moved his feet nervously but did not break down as many thought he would. When he was being led from the court room he said: "I'm glad it's over. It's better than having the suspense. I didn't expect such a severe sentence but under the circumstances it's all right."

There is some doubt expressed in legal circles as to the interpretation of Attorney King's sentence. He received from three to five years on the first count of forgery and three years on the second. This is construed by some to mean that the sentence would be from three to eight years. Others say six to eight years is the correct version.

The question of parole enters into this too. Assistant Clerk Tracy of the superior court, who has had long experience in such matters, says the minimum sentence is three years and at the expiration of this time the lawyer may apply for a parole. With the customary two months a year allowed off for good behavior, Attorney King could be freed on parole after serving two years and six months.

Assistant State's Attorney Carter declared this morning he wasn't certain whether the prisoner could apply for a parole after three years or whether he must wait until he had served six years. Several lawyers thought six years would be the minimum and others agreed with Assistant Clerk Tracy.

Mr. Carter says when the term of imprisonment on the second count begins at the expiration of the first, the court shall name no minimum except under the first count and the several maximum terms shall be construed as one continual term.

Owing to the illness of Judge Williams the session of the criminal superior court was continued until tomorrow when Judge Howard J. Curtis will preside temporarily. All witnesses who were summoned for today must appear tomorrow.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Two men were burned to death and 10 others injured, one seriously here early today when fire partly destroyed the 7th avenue Hotel. Police and firemen rescued 15 guests while 25 others safely made their way to the street. The hotel was a three-story brick structure.

**FLUE AFIRE.**

A still alarm of fire this afternoon brought Chemical company No. 1 to the Eagle Hat Manufacturing Co.'s store at 1432 Main street, where a defective furnace flue shed a shower of sparks on a pile of combustible goods. The damage was trivial.

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Expert of Russell Sage Foundation Makes Startling Declaration in His Report on Conditions As He Found Them Through Diligent Inquiry in Bridgeport.

MAYOR HAD CHOICE OF SUFFERING EXPOSE OR REMEDYING CONDITIONS

Delegation of Prominent Citizens Put Up to Executive the Alternative of Naming Body to Take Up Inquiry or Telling the Facts of Bridgeport's Underworld.

The acts of Mayor C. B. Wilson in appointing a vice commission just before the last election and in announcing in his annual report Monday that the Red Light district must go, were done to save himself and his administration from exposure.

That's the startling assertion made in a matter-of-fact manner—just as if everybody in Bridgeport knows it or ought to know it—by Zenas L. Potter, of the Department of Surveys and Exhibits in the Russell Sage Foundation.

"Last winter, a few citizens, disapproving of Bridgeport's segregated district, gathered facts regarding it and laid them before the mayor, giving him the choice of appointing a vice commission or having an expose," asserts Mr. Potter.

He makes the assertion in his report on Bridgeport just published by the Survey Associates, Inc. "He chose the former course," continues Mr. Potter, appointed a commission and secured \$500 from the board of aldermen. He also closed some of the worst disorderly houses."

## LIES ALONE IN DEATH'S GRASP FOR THREE DAYS

Charles Lange, Janitor of City Savings Bank Accidentally Asphyxiated.

Charles Lange, engineer of the City Savings bank, was found dead of illuminating-gas poisoning today in the basement apartment he kept at 614 Norman street. He had been absent from his employment for three days and officials of the bank finally asked neighbors to investigate. Lange was found dead on a couch in the sitting room of his five room flat. A leak from a gas jet over his head is believed to have caused asphyxiation.

Missing from his work and not seen about the house for the last three days caused a search to be made of the home of Charles Lange, who kept bachelor apartments at 604 Norman street, by neighbors at 8 o'clock this morning and he was found lying dead upon a couch in the sitting room of his home.

J. Frederick Schenck of 955 Wood avenue notified the police and they notified Medical Examiner, Dr. C. H. Locke. The medical examiner, visited the home of Lange and after an examination gave his opinion that Lange had been dead for two or three days, a victim of accidental gas poisoning.

Lange came to this country from Norway about five years ago. He was a member of Hamilton commandery, Knights Templar. His wife died about three years ago and since her death he has kept house by himself at 604 Norman street.

He was for some time an employee of the Bridgeport Public Market, but about three years ago he opened the pin-making business at the City Savings bank. He served time in the British army and was assigned to a post in Egypt and often related many interesting tales of his army life while addressing members of Hamilton Commandery at meetings.

He has no relatives and Medical Examiner, Garlick gave permission for the removal of the body to the undertaking establishment of Walker & Banks on Fairfield avenue and from whence the funeral will be held under the auspices of Hamilton Commandery. John J. Fisher, Generalissimo of Hamilton Commandery, has charge of the funeral arrangements.

**TWO KILLED, TEN HURT AS FLAMES DESTROY HOTEL**

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 8.—Two men were burned to death and 10 others injured, one seriously here early today when fire partly destroyed the 7th avenue Hotel. Police and firemen rescued 15 guests while 25 others safely made their way to the street. The hotel was a three-story brick structure.

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Mr. Potter was sent to Bridgeport by the Russell Sage Foundation for the purpose of making a survey of the city. He interviewed most of the prominent men in the city, public officials, those connected with both private and public charitable associations, and private persons with an insight into political affairs.

He was closely connected with Secretary McAdoo of the National Charity Organization association in his work here and it was thought that the Foundation, through his findings, would solve the problem of housing and planning that has been baffling Bridgeport.

Mr. Potter received some startling "inside" information, some of which he assumed to be generally known by the citizens here. Among the things he learned, according to his report, is that facts were gathered by citizens, placed squarely before Mayor Wilson, the latter was threatened with exposure if he did not do something, and his appointment of a vice commission was made to stave off the drawing aside of the curtain.

Persons interested in charity here have read the report with interest. The attempt of the administration to tie into a halo fashioned by Mayor Wilson Monday night, taking credit for a virtuous act, is smiled at. That it was forced because of the damning information in the possession of prominent persons not connected with politics, is the inference they are taking from the report.

The lack of houses in Bridgeport to care for the influx of persons here with their families is dwelt upon in the report. Mr. Potter estimates that 50,000 have been added to the population of the city by the development of the munitions industries here and the improved labor conditions.

The failure of the Housing association work in this city is explained by Mr. Potter in this manner. "The Bridgeport Housing association made one attempt to interest prominent persons in a housing scheme on an extensive scale, but without success, due largely to the fact that enough local capital to give outsiders confidence was not willing to come in on the underwriting."

Of the boom here, he says: "A stream of European gold, more powerful than the touch of King Midas, is flowing into Bridgeport. To an old, slow-going city of 115,000 inhabitants, in less than a year 50,000 have been added. In a conservative town with non-union traditions and the nine-and-ten-hour-day prevailing, in six months hundreds of its workers have joined the union, had over 50 strikes and won the eight hour day."

"Law-breaking and drunkenness are on the increase. Recreation facilities are swamped. Traffic problems are suddenly acute, and the school authorities don't know what to do with their children."

"The scene on the streets gives the impression that all the young fellows in this section of the country have flocked to Bridgeport to launch their careers."

"Bridgeport is achieving bigness but without preparedness—and is having growing pains."

"There is, for example, the traffic problem. Bridgeport was never planned. The narrow downtown streets served their purpose 50 years ago. A year ago they were reasonably satisfactory. Today in busy hours they are crowded full. A swarm of jitneys has added to the congestion. What the city is to do with these streets in the present boom proves permanent we dare not surmise."

On cheap lodging house, strange to say, asserts Mr. Potter, the boom has had a beneficial effect, according to information he received. He writes: "They are still crowded and many instances have inadequate ventilation and other unhappy features not to be mentioned. The boom has, however,

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